

Message Text

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13-11

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AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SA, GW

SUBJECT: SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT FRG

SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER PRINCE SAUDI AL-FAISAL WILL PAY AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE FRG JAN 21-23. THE VISIT IS BEING CHARACTERIZED HERE AS PART OF A CONTINUING DIALOGUE AND EXCHANGE OF VISITS BEGUN WITH THE RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS IN 1974. THERE IS NO SPECIFIC PURPOSE FOR THE VISIT AND TALKS WILL COVER A BROAD RANGE OF TOPICS INCLUDING THE OVER-ALL FRAMEWORK FOR SAUDI-GERMAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION. DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE NOT REACHED THE POINT WHERE AN AGREEMENT WILL BE READY FOR SIGNATURE DURING PRINCE SAUD'S VISIT. THE ONLY AGREEMENT LIKELY TO BE SIGNED IS A RELATIVELY MINOR ONE ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING. END SUMMARY.

1. SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER PRINCE SAUD AL-FAISAL IS LEAVING THE KINGDOM TODAY(JAN19) FOR GENEVA PRIOR TO AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE FRG BEGINNING JAN 21. THE SAUDI DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE THE FONMIN DIRECTOR OF WESTERN AFFAIRS AMBASSADOR NURI IBRAHIM, THE NEWLY APPOINTED FONMIN DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AND PETROLEUM AFFAIRS ABDULLAH ALIREZA AND PRINCE SAUD'S OFFICE DIRECTOR HASSAN SHAWWAF IN ADDITION
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TO AMBASSADOR HUJAYLAN. THE SCHEDULE CALLS FOR TWO MEETINGS

WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, CALLS ON THE CHANCELLOR AND FEDERAL PRESIDENT, A MEETING WITH THE PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND DINNERS HOSTED BY THE FRG AND SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTERS. THE OFFICIAL PORTION OF THE VISIT ALSO INCLUDES A TRIP TO DUSSELDORF AND A DINNER HOSTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF NORTH RHEIN-WESTPHALIA ON JANUARY 23. AT THAT POINT THE OFFICIAL SCHEDULE ENDS, THOUGH SAUD COULD STAY ON LONGER IN AN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY.

2. BOTH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE GERMAN EMBASSY HERE HAVE DESCRIBED THE VISIT AS ESSENTIALLY ROUTINE; PART OF A CONTINUING EXCHANGE OF VISITS GOING BACK TO THEN MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAQQAF'S 1974 VISIT TO GERMANY AND, MOST RECENTLY, INCLUDING VICE CHANCELLOR GENSCHER'S APRIL 1975 VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. AGENDA TOPICS WILL INCLUDE: BILATERAL RELATIONS, THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, PETROLEUM AND ENERGY, THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, THE BOYCOTT AND NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE.

3. IT IS NOT ANTICIPATED THAT ANY MAJOR AGREEMENTS WILL BE CONCLUDED, THOUGH A VOCATIONAL TRAINING AGREEMENT (SOMETHING THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN HERE FOR A LONG TIME) MAY BE SIGNED. ONE MAJOR TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION WILL BE THE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH SAUDI-GERMAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION IS TO TAKE PLACE. PURELY TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT WERE SIGNED AT THE TIME OF THE FIRST JOINT SAUDI-FRG ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETINGS IN BONN IN FEBRUARY 1975 BUT THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF COOPERATION HAS YET TO BE WORKED OUT. IT WILL NOT BE THRASHED OUT IN TIME FOR AN AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED DURING PRINCE SAUD'S VISIT.

4. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR NURI IBRAHIM WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANYING SAUD HAS BEEN NAMED AS SAUDI ARABIA'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO BONN. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REQUESTED BUT NOT YET RECEIVED. (HUJAYLAN, ACCORDING TO THE MOST LIKELY ACCOUNT, WILL BE GOING TO PARIS. ANOTHER ACCOUNT WOULD HAVE HIM REPLACING BAROODY AS SAUDI PERMREP IN NEW YORK BUT THAT IS PROBABLY TOO MUCH TO HOPE FOR.) IBRAHIM HAS BEEN MOST FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL TO THIS EMBASSY AND WE ARE SURE THAT EMBASSY BONN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH A CLOSE AND USEFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH HI. BIO INFO BY AIRGRAM.
PORTER

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